



STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

**John G. Rowland**  
Governor

**Maj. Gen. William A. Cugno**  
The Adjutant General

**Kerry L. Flaherty**  
Director

# NEWS RELEASE

**December 21, 2003**

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## GOVERNOR ORDERS STATE HOMELAND SECURITY TO LEVEL ORANGE

**STATE ARMORY, HARTFORD, CT:** Governor John G. Rowland today activated the State Emergency Operations Center to monitor the status of the increased national threat level to Code Orange (High) following a conference call with Thomas Ridge, Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Representatives from the Governor's Office, Emergency Management, Military Department, State Department of Homeland Security, Department of Public Safety, Department of Transportation, and the Department of Public Health are staffing the operations center and actively coordinating information to assist federal and local law enforcement authorities.

The Governor increased the State's threat level to Code Orange to correspond to the increase in the national threat level and has ordered several precautionary actions.

"We need to take these threats seriously but there is no need to change our daily routines or holiday plans," said Governor John G. Rowland. "We are as prepared as we can possibly be. Leave the worrying to us and our homeland security team. The key is to increase our overall vigilance while continuing to enjoy the holiday season."

The Governor has directed the following actions:

- The State Emergency Operations Center will conduct 24 hour monitoring operations staffed by key state agencies until further notice.
- Connecticut State Police in conjunction with New York and New Jersey State Police will return to riding MetroNorth trains beginning this afternoon in and out of New York City. Governor Rowland has coordinated this step with Governor Pataki of New York.
- Bradley Airport has activated Code Orange operations and enhanced overall security and inspections. K-9 Teams are also activated and will conduct expanded operations.
- All border truck weigh and inspections stations will now operate on a 24 hour basis and all trucks entering Connecticut will be required to stop.

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- The Connecticut State Police has activated its Code Orange protocol and has placed all troopers on T-1 recall status, making available over 1,000 troopers within a few hours.
- The Connecticut Army National Guard will deploy two Quick Response Forces to supplement security at the Millstone Nuclear Power Station and New Haven Harbor.
- The Governor has sent a formal request to Secretary Ridge requesting that the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) implement a No-Fly Zone to restrict flights over the Millstone Power Station in Waterford and the Indian Point Power Station in New York State.
- The Connecticut State Police ground and aviation units will conduct increased surveillance of key state infrastructure sites.
- The Department of Public Health is reviewing hospital and Emergency Medical Services readiness.
- The State Department of Environmental Protection has activated its HazMat teams and Conservation Officers. Added surveillance of watershed areas is in place.

The Governor will hold a conference call tomorrow, December 22 at 10:00 AM with local officials including chief elected officials, police and fire chiefs, and emergency management directors to provide them the latest information and coordinate any additional resources.

The Governor has asked all local and tribal governments, the private sector, and the general public, to remain especially alert during this holiday season and immediate report any situation that appears to constitute a threat or suspicious activity to law enforcement authorities.

The State Department of Homeland Security “TIPS” information line number will be staffed for 24 hours. The number is (866) 457-8477 or [866-HLS-TIPS] . Persons are asked to call this number or your local law enforcement agency to report information concerning suspicious or criminal activity.

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security reports that the U.S. Intelligence Community has received a substantial increase in the volume of threat related intelligence reports. These credible sources suggest the possibility of attacks against the U. S. homeland around and after the holiday season

There is no specific reference to location of possible threats, however, they have been identified as relating to aviation vulnerabilities or other key national infrastructure.